

## MARINE SAFETY MANUAL

### ENCLOSURE (4-2): U.S. COAST GUARD WARTIME PORT SECURITY POLICY STATEMENT

The policy of the United States Coast Guard is to have sufficient capabilities at all levels of command to meet the security and safety needs of the nation's ports during any contingency or national emergency. Deployment and sustainment of military forces must not be disrupted. Strategic sealift and critical maritime commerce must sail unimpeded. The Coast Guard's role is to ensure protection of vessels, waterfront facilities (including key assets), associated equipment and materials, and waterways within port and harbor complexes. We will execute this responsibility recognizing that masters, owners, operators, and agents have the primary responsibility for protecting and securing their vessels and waterfront facilities. The Coast Guard shall maintain its leadership role in coordinating interagency efforts regarding local port readiness, strengthening the capabilities of our commercial seaports to support strategic mobility. As a U.S. military force, we must be fully prepared to carry out our port security obligation while operating within the Department of the Navy during times of war or when so directed by the President. This will necessitate taking full advantage of our statutory authorities and skills acquired during peacetime. Coast Guard forces must be ready to carry out their duties in a wide spectrum of environments that range from a routine peacetime port security posture to full mobilization. This will require flexibility and preparedness which are key elements to meet evolving threat situations.

The Office of Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection, in consultation with other Program Directors, is responsible for developing, administering and maintaining port security policy and procedures. Such guidance shall be consistent with all related Executive Orders and directives, Joint Chiefs of Staff and U.S. Navy coastal warfare doctrine, U.S. Coast Guard operational requirements and military capabilities, and enabling statutes and regulations. This policy statement serves as the foundation for port security doctrine and tactics, which will be further defined in various Coast Guard directives and supporting OPLANS. This policy shall be adhered to when planning, exercising and training for joint and intra-service port security/harbor defense operations. Port Security is a significant Coast Guard contribution to national security and we are committed to ensuring that our ports and harbors are safe and secure, at all times.